(c) whether crops are washed away and villagers face danger to their lives every year; and

(d) if so, the help rendered by the Central Government to the cash-starved State to save villagers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Flood Management being a State subject, the responsibility of planning, funding, executing and operating flood control including river bank erosion schemes rests with the concerned State Government. The assistance rendered by the Central Government is technical, catalytic and promotional in nature.

The Government of Orissa has informed that at present there is no adequate flood protection embankment and that crops are affected and villagers face danger when the flood discharge exceeds 8.00 lakh cusecs at Mahanadi Delta head *i.e.* at Naraj.

(d) No scheme for flood protection embankment on Luna and Karandia rivers has been submitted by the State Government.

Height of Sardar Sarovar Dam

2148. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ:
PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per the action-plan prepared by the NCA height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam is to reach 100 mt. by June 2002 and 110 mt. by June, 2003;

(b) whether the target of raising the dam to height of 100 mt. by June, 2002 could not be achieved due to delay in completion of R and R works to be carried out in the participating State and not extending co-operation by them; and

(c) if so, the mechanism evolved for resolving differences among the participating States and by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The target of raising the dam height to elevation (EL) 100.0 metre as per the action-plan could not be achieved due to some delay in the Resettlement & Rehabilitation (R&R) works to be completed by participating States. The States have been trying their best for the R&R of the Project Affected Families (PAF) in a time-bound manner.

(c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgement dated 18.10.2000 has laid down a mechanism for further raising of the dam height *pari-passu* with the R&R of PAF. The dam has been completed upto EL 95 metre. The R&R of PAF between EL 95.0 to EL 100.0 metre has almost been completed in the States of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat. The Grievances Redressal Authority (GRA) of Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat have given their favorable opinion to raise the dam height upto EL 100.0 metre. Consultation with GRA-Maharashtra has also been initiated. According to Government of Maharashtra as well as GRA-Maharashtra, thre are some additional PAF upto EL 100.0 metre who are yet to be resettled in Maharashtra. Also development of civic amenities at one R&R site is yet to be completed. As soon as the R&R of PAF is completed in Maharashtra and the GRA gives its concurrence, the NCA will permit raising of Sardar Sarovar Dam height from EL 95.0 to EL 100.0 metre.

The Union Ministry of Water Resources and NCA are pursuing the matter with the Government of Maharashtra for early completion of R&R works as per the approved Action-Plan.

Lower ground water level

†2149. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN'
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the percentage of land irrigated by canals in the country has declined from 41.3 per cent to 31.3 per cent whereas the percentage of land irrigated from tubewells has increased from 14.3 per cent to 33.8 per cent;

(b) if not, the assessment of Government in this regard; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.